



Indy's **alternative** voice

INSIDE:
OUR 2018 WINTER
CITY GUIDE!



Hoosier Holidays

1

A close-up of several star-shaped cookies decorated with white icing and red sprinkles, arranged in a circular pattern.

3

A green star with a white outline on a red background with white polka dots.

4

A fuzzy blue creature with large eyes and a red nose, wearing a red scarf, against a green background with white polka dots.

6

A book titled "STRONG IS THE NEW PRETTY" by David Lauryl, featuring a woman's face on the cover, next to a small white cat.

8

A black and white dog's head, possibly a French Bulldog, surrounded by a festive wreath of red, green, and gold ornaments and flowers.

10

A close-up of several cupcakes with white frosting and orange toppings, arranged in a row.

11

A poster for the Big Damn Band, featuring the text "Reverend Peyton's BIG DAMN BAND POOR UNTIL PAYDAY" and an illustration of a band performing.

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A man with a beard and long hair, wearing a black t-shirt, holding several books. One book is titled "HERE LIES MIAO" and another is "IKEBE SHAKER".

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RENOVATION

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ALL PHOTOS are submitted by event organizers and venues or on file unless otherwise noted.

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"THE Q:"

Where is your favorite place to shop locally in Indy?

"

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VOICES

MOMENTS, MEMORIES & THE HOLIDAY SEASON

BY JOHN KRULL // VOICES@NUVO.NET

A few Thanksgivings ago, my uncle—
my father's older brother—and some
of my cousins came to join us.

Something came up, and my
father couldn't make it to the feast.

My uncle talked with Dad on the phone
and teased him about not making the trip
in. My father returned serve and ribbed
him back.

I sat and listened to one half of a
conversation in which two octogenarians
gave each other grief and laughed about
it, just as they had been doing for more
than eight decades.

On another Thanksgiving, my aunt,
uncle and cousins on my
Mom's side of the family
came for Thanksgiving.

When we were kids,
we saw each other often.
We spent many holidays
together, gathering often
with our widowed grand-
father, who died when I
was in college.

But life took my cous-
ins and me down different paths. Now, we
see each other only rarely.

That Thanksgiving, though, we were
able to get together.

After we'd eaten, my cousins Dave and
Tom and I retired to the living room,
where we sat before a roaring fire and
sipped Scotch as we caught up. We
brought each other up to date on our
lives, then started telling stories.

One of my cousins recounted an epi-
sode from our boyhoods. It cracked us up
— and there we were, three middle-aged
guys with full bellies bent over, laughing
like school boys.

In a flash, I'd traveled back more than
40 years, to the days when my grandfather

still was alive, and we all were kids. I could
hear my grandfather's crackling laugh
once more and it warmed me more than
the fire or the Scotch did.

On yet another Thanksgiving, my
younger brother came over. My son just
had discovered an abiding passion for
sports. He worshipped my brother, who
had been a high school athlete.

There still was some work to be done in
the kitchen before we could eat. My son
begged, wheedled and cajoled my brother
to go out in our yard and throw the foot-
ball with him.

They trotted outside.

I watched from a window as
my son and my brother tossed
the pigskin back and forth.
My son's grin split his face. My
brother began to smile, too.

Soon, they both were
throwing their heads back and
laughing as the football flew
back and forth between them.

We're now in the season
of gratitude.

We give thanks for family, for friends,
for health, for material comfort and other
great blessings.

This is as it should be. Those things
matter. They loom large in our lives. Hap-
piness is hard to find without them.

But even as we celebrate these big things,
we also ought to reserve a little gratitude
for the small moments, the ones that show
us how we fit in and just how nice it is to be
alive and in the presence of those we love.

Happy Thanksgiving. ■

John Krull is director of Franklin College's
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J.D. FORD BREAKS BARRIERS, GETS TO WORK

*Indiana's First LGBT Legislator
Victorious on Second Try*

BY **ROB BURGESS** // RBURGESS@NUVO.NET

Nov. 6 was Election Day, and J.D. Ford's 36th birthday. He was in for quite a present.

Ford ousted incumbent Sen. Mike Delph, R-Carmel, who had represented District 29 in the Indiana Senate since 2005.

With 100 percent of precincts reporting to the Indiana Secretary of State's office, Ford came away with 56.7 percent, 31,880 votes, to Delph's 43.3 percent, 24,373 votes.

"This is a dream come true for me. I feel like I've hit the lottery," he said during an interview at NUVO just days later. "I'm just

honored to have them vote for me."

Ford is now the first openly LGBTQ person ever elected to the Indiana General Assembly.

Indiana was one of the few states in the nation to have never elected an openly LGBTQ person to its state legislature. Currently, just four openly LGBTQ elected officials serve in the entire state.

Nationwide, Ford's win was also a part of a "Rainbow Wave," which saw over 150 LGBT candidates elected during the mid-term election, the most ever recorded.

What makes Ford's accomplishment all the more remarkable is how long he worked for it, where it happened, and who he was up against.

FIRST RUN IN 2014

Public service runs in Ford's family. His maternal grandfather was a city councilman and his paternal grandmother was a city auditor.

"I remember people coming up to them all the time and saying, 'Thank you so much,'" he said. "I remember thinking to myself, 'Wow, that's a really cool job that you get to be in your community and help people.'"

When he attended the University of Akron to study pre-law and conflict management, Ford became the first person in his family to attend college. He later attended Purdue University to pursue his master's degree in education with an emphasis in human services.

Meanwhile, Mike Delph was making a name for himself as one of the most prominent and polarizing conservative Republican lawmakers in Indiana. Among other things, Delph worked for years against same-sex marriage. In 2014, he pursued a procedural move to try to put a ban on civil unions back into a constitutional marriage amendment.

It was around that time that Ford attended one of Delph's town halls.

"There was a gay couple...and they basically said, 'We pay our taxes. We don't give you any grief. We've lived in our house for so many years. So, what's the point? Why are you always railing on us, on our community?'" said Ford. "The way that Sen. Delph carried him-

self, I was just not happy about what I was seeing.

"I remember talking to that gentleman afterwards and I said, 'I am so sorry that that happened to you. You must have been mortified.' And they were. At that point I was like, 'Well, somebody needs to run against him.'"

Friends and family convinced Ford he should be that somebody.

"I knew that it would be an uphill battle," he said. "I knew that it would be tough, but I was going to try. If not me, then who, right?"

When the ballots were counted Election Day 2014, Delph won re-election 54.3 percent, 15,140 votes, to Ford's 45.7 percent, 12,744.

But, Ford had a plan for next time.

SAME MATCH-UP, DIFFERENT RESULT

Nov. 7, the day after Election Day 2018, Delph posted on Facebook thanking supporters, congratulating Ford, and blaming his loss on "mindless straight party protest vote driven by disdain for our President."

Ford said he didn't see it that way.

"We didn't go out there and say negative things about the Republican Party," he said.

Ford and his volunteers began knocking on doors in July 2017, and following up with handwritten, issue-oriented notes later.

"This time for me was a lot easier because I knew the people," he said. "I knew when to get started."

Ford said the key to his success was connecting personally with voters. Ford, who substitute taught throughout his campaign, said education issues will be among his top priorities as he begins his work.

"Particularly with school funding, how we're treating our teachers, and how anxious our students are getting about taking these tests," he said.

Ford's victory was one of the few rays of hope for Indiana Democrats this year. He said his advice to other candidates in his party was to emphasize solutions.

"I wanted to make sure that we were standing for something," he said. ■



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A DAY OF JOY, A LIFETIME OF RESPONSIBILITY

One Day a Year, Uncontested Adoptions are Finalized Publicly

BY ROB BURGESS // RBURGESS@NUVO.NET

What happened Friday in the Probate Division on the 17th floor of the Marion County Superior Court is not uncommon, but every other day of the year, it is done behind closed doors.

In Senior Judge Gerald Zore's courtroom, sets of families file in one at a time and take their places. In turn, each parent is sworn in and takes their seats at the witness stand.

From the table, the lawyer asks the couple the same list of questions: Tell the judge your name. Who resides with you? Tell the court about the child.

"She's everything we're looking for," says the father. Like his wife, he is wearing a green sticker on his shirt, indicating their family does not want their photo taken. (Families without stickers have signed release forms.)

The lawyer asks why they want to take on this "awesome responsibility."

"We wanted kids, and we're not able to have kids, so we went this route," the father answers.

After the lawyer asks if they have ever been convicted of a felony or a misdemeanor related to the health and safety of children, Zore asks his final, standard question about their pets with a smile on his face.

Once the mother takes the stand, the tears begin to flow.

"[She] is a fun-loving young girl that stole our hearts," she says, choking up.

After a few more perfunctory questions, including the spelling of the child's new name, Zore delivers the happy news that the petition for adoption is granted.

Applause breaks out as one of 270 uncontested adoptions in 30 counties across the state is granted during Indiana's observance



SYMPHONI CALDWELL (RIGHT) WITH BROTHER KALEB AND FATHER CHRISTOPHER // PHOTO BY ROB BURGESS

If you would like more information on how to start the foster or adoption process, visit: www.adoptachild.in.gov

of National Adoption Day. The official date of the holiday is traditionally the Saturday before Thanksgiving, but these county courts scheduled individual, open celebrations during different dates in November.

"National Adoption Day is an effort to raise awareness about children in foster care waiting to find permanent families," stated Indiana Supreme Court Chief Justice Loretta Rush in her June 18 order authorizing the broadcast.

That order authorized "families and press the opportunity to photograph and videotape adoption proceedings" on these selected days, according to Kathryn Dolan, chief public information officer.

"Indiana trial courts resolve disputes in over 1.3 million cases each year," stated Dolan. "Adoptions are just one case type. Each year there are about 3,600 adoptions in the state."

Behind the adoptive families is a table filled with toys, candy, and other brightly-colored items. Seated there is Vanessa Dove, recruitment coordinator for the Indiana Adoption Program. She said their goal is to match families with children in foster care.

"We do recruitment. We're the front line," she said. "We go out and find the parents who are interested in adoption and help them work through the process. These parents have gone through the foster care adoption process. They've got their home study. Now, the kids who have been placed with them, in most of these situations, they were foster placements that are now turning into adoptive placements."

In the lobby outside the courtroom is a display with booklet from the program featuring photos and biographies of some of the children who have been through foster care and are available to be adopted.

"[People] think that adoption and foster care are not really close together, but they are," said Dove.

Just then, Tamika Caldwell, her husband, Christopher, and their children, Symphoni and Kaleb, enter the courtroom.

"What are we going to do?" asks Symphoni before Tamika is sworn in.

"We're going to talk to this guy," says the lawyer.

After being sworn in, Tamika tells the court that Kaleb has lived with their family since he was 2 days old, and Symphoni for two years. Tamika, who has been fostering and adopting for almost 18 years, says Symphoni is her biological cousin and that they have negotiated a post-adoption contact agreement with the biological mother and father that calls for a limited number of visits.

"She's smart. She loves Barbie dolls, and princesses," she says, of Symphoni. "Kaleb came into the world really struggling. He had a rough start. He's doing well. He's learning how to talk. [He's] busy. I think he's going to be a professional boxer or a football player because he's very active."

The children's new names are then spelled out for the record.

"That's my brother!" exclaims Symphoni from her seat, as Kaleb's name is read.

After Tamika finishes, Christopher takes the stand and answers the same questions. He is asked why he wants to adopt these children.

"They're our kids," he says, without missing a beat. ■



A Mass Ave. Shopping Guide

20 Cool Shops in Downtown's Hottest District

BY **NUVO EDITORS** // EDITORS@NUVO.NET

PHOTOS BY CHARLIE CLARK & MERCER T. SUPPGER

Like it or not, the holidays are synonymous with shopping. And if you've got to shop this season, you should at least do it well.

Indy has a lot of great neighborhoods and cultural districts with ample retail offerings, but none can rival the resurgence in recent years along the Mass Ave corridor.

In one of the city's most historic districts you can now find a local source for nearly every person on your gift list. We've made it easy for you, here's a list of 20 local shops offering everything from clothes to cupcakes, books to boxers, arranged by block.

Note: Many Mass Ave shops are closed on Monday and Tuesday, but may have extended hours during the holidays. Check websites and social media pages for the most up-to-date information.

400 BLOCK OF MASS AVE

- 1 **Silver in the City**
silverinthecity.com
434 Mass Ave.

When Kristin Kohn opened her shop in 2000, she became a key figure in the most recent wave of Mass Ave revitalization. Nearly two decades later, Silver in the City is still the place to go downtown for beautiful jewelry, as well as home goods and gifts with personality and panache. It also happens to win our Best of Indy Readers Poll for Best Gift Store nearly every year—including this one.

- 2 **Three Dog Bakery**
threedog.com
444 Mass Ave.

Got a fur baby that deserves a special gift for the holidays? Or maybe just a



treat for being such a good boy while you were out shopping? Three Dog has treats so lovely you'll be tempted to eat them yourself. Toys, leashes, and foods are also here, if you can tear yourself away from the bakery case.

- 3 **Global Gifts**
globalgifts.com
446 Mass Ave.

Lots of gorgeous gift items here from all over the world. The bonus is each purchase supports fair wages, gender equity, and safe and dignified working conditions for artisans in over 40 countries. Buy yourself something, too—like holiday decoration items that would look perfect on your tree or mantle.

- 4 **Flying Cupcake**
theflyingcupcakebakery.com
423 Mass Ave.

The cutest and tastiest shop on Mass Ave, take a box of these beauties to your holiday party or give as a special gift to friends, neighbors, or co-workers. Gift cards make good stocking stuffers and are less messy to wrap. The gals have locations all over town so find one near you this season.

- 5 **Macaron Bar**
macaron-bar.com
425 Mass Ave.

Dedicated to the art of the French macaron, this boutique bakery brings a certain *je ne sais crois* to your gift list with flavors like lavender, salted caramel, and pistachio. Tuck in a couple of tickets to the Indianapolis Symphony's upcoming *A Night in Paris* concert (Jan. 2019), and you've won Christmas.

- 6 **Pumkinfish**
pumkinfish.com
429 Mass Ave.

A newer kid on the block, Pumkinfish offers a wide array of gifts and goodies, many with local origins. Find items for kids, pets, the garden, the kitchen, and even the bath, plus original art and handmade goods. A hassle-free place to pick up a snack or drink while shopping, as well.

- 7 **Sage**
(no website)
431 Mass Ave.

A small boutique that packs a big punch in designer fashioner. These are pieces you'll pay a lot for, but get your money's worth in terms of quality and classic style. Best of Indy winner in the ladies fashion category this year, Sage is definitely swoon-worthy and worth the splurge.

- 8 **Nurture**
nurtureonline.com
433 Mass Ave.

This is where you need to go for the new baby on your list. Whether it's a niece or nephew, grandkid, or your very own bundle of joy, Nurture is brimming with beautiful, fun, and original clothes, gifts, and layette items—plus toys, books, and games any kid will adore.

600 BLOCK OF MASS AVE

- 9 **Chatham Home**
chathanhomeindy.com
517 E. Walnut St.

Just around the corner from Mass Ave on Walnut Street is one of the city's most original home stores. Mixing classic lines and modern flair on everything from sofas to lamps, Chatham Home inspires creative place-making just as perfect for a Mass Ave loft as a Midtown bungalow.

- 10 **Watt's Blooming**
wattsblooming.com
615 Mass Ave.

Stop in for your holiday arrangement and centerpiece needs; pick up something for a hostess gift; or place thoughtful orders for someone whose holidays would be infinitely brightened by flowers. Watt's Blooming also lets you select your own individual flowers if you want to BYOB—build your own bouquet.

700 BLOCK OF MASS AVE

- 11 **Decorate**
decorateindy.com
716 Mass Ave.

Amy Minick Peterson has opened one of the freshest home stores in the city with Decorate. While "curated" is the *mot du jour*, in this case it's deserving. Peterson has a keen sense of style that is of the mo-



THREE DOG BAKERY //



NURTURE //



HOMESPUN MODERN HANDMADE //



TOOLBOX //

ment without being trendy, and the selection in the shop reflects both her warmth and wisdom.

- 12 Toolbox Men's Supply Co.**
toolboxindy.com
753 Mass Ave.

Got a man in your life who deserves better than Wal-Mart tightie-whities? Think of Toolbox like Victoria's Secret for dudes—designer underwear, swimwear, gift items and more personal “adult” items. Wide range of sizes and styles and very friendly staff should make this your go-to for guy gifts.

800 BLOCK OF MASS AVE

- 13 Mass Ave Wine**
massavewine.com
878 Mass Ave.

Downtown's destination wine shop and for good reason. Owner Lisa Cunningham personally selects all the wines for the shop from every corner of the globe. High-end wine-lovers are bound to find exactly what they're looking for; but many bottles are under \$15 and perfect for the budget-minded.

- 14 Best Chocolate in Town**
bestchocolateintown.com
880 Mass Ave.

Since 1998, Elizabeth Garber and company have been providing Indy with premium, specialty chocolates, truffles, caramels, and unique desserts that live up to the hype. Stop in for gift certificates, take a box to-go, or sign up someone you love for the Chocolate of the Month Club.

- 15 City Dogs Grocery**
citydogsgrocery.com
884 Mass Ave.

In addition to all kinds of treats, City Dogs stocks top of the line food for all breeds of dogs. They've also got the pet supplements and supplies needed to keep downtown dogs healthy and happy, plus the toys and accessories to keep Fido looking stylish.

- 16 Strumento Art Materials**
strumentoart.com
811 Mass Ave.

Strumento means tool in Italian, and if

there's an artist in need of tools on your list—this is where you want to be. Located inside the Art Bank Building, here you'll find quality pastels, paints, pencils, and all types of paper. An uber-friendly staff will help order anything they don't carry.

- 17 Boomerang Boutique**
boomerangboutique.com
845 Mass Ave.

Five years ago, Indy native Felicia Kiesel decided to quit dreaming about owning her own boutique and actually make that dream a reality. The result is a shop as fun, fashion-

able, and festive as Felicia herself. Jackets, tees, dresses and accessories the girly-girl on your list will love.

- 18 Crimson Tate**
crimsontate.com
845 Mass Ave.

This tiny shop is a treasure trove for anyone who enjoys working with fabric—particularly quilters. Purdue grad and Fabric designer Heather Givans has created a wonderful and welcoming shop specializing in quality fabrics, patterns, notions, and sewing classes. Gift certificates available.

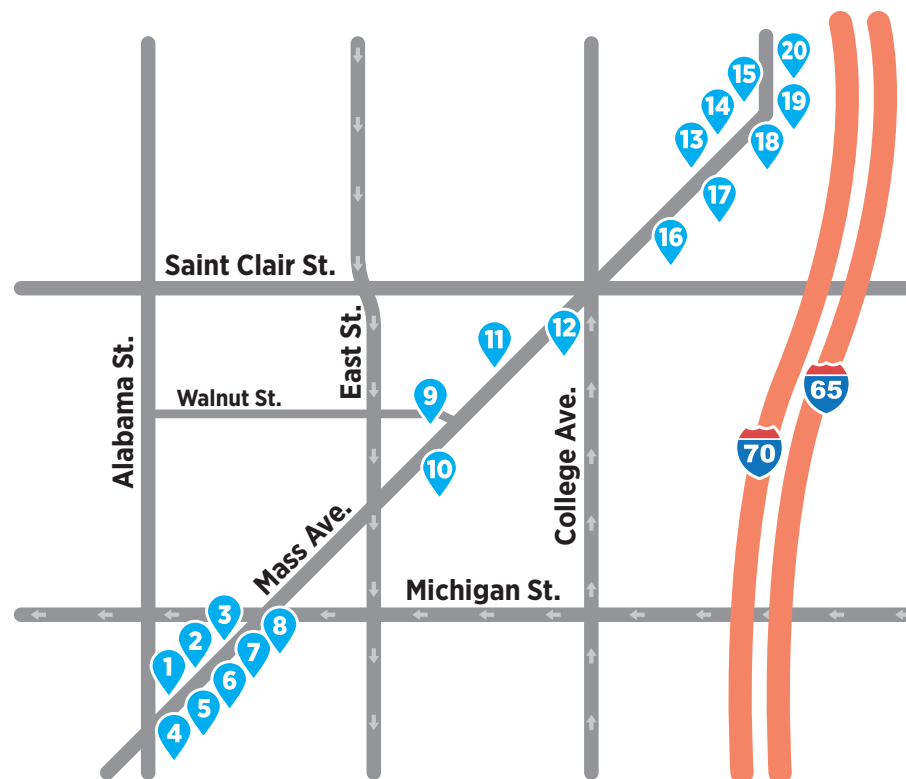
- 19 Homespun Modern Handmade**
homespunindy.com
869 Mass Ave.

What began as one of Indy's first contemporary craft fairs in 2010 is now one of the most successful shops in the city. Owner Amanda Taflinger deserves the lion's share of the credit for making the local makers movement here in Indy a viable commercial reality. Stop in for the best Hoosier-centric art and craft in town.

900 BLOCK OF MASS AVE

- 20 Indy Reads Books**
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911 Mass Ave.

One of the very few independent bookstores in the city, Indy Reads sells books to fund local literacy programs and does so primarily with donations. Lots of new stuff too—and a terrific selection with everything from kids to cookbooks, feminism to fiction. There's a sweet pay-what-you-can section for used treasures, too! **N**





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**THRIVE INDIANAPOLIS
COMMUNITY WORKSHOP**

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THUR, NOV 29 from 6-8 PM
EASTERN STAR CHURCH
5750 E. 30TH STREET

Get a first look as the City presents the new sustainability and resilience plan. Take part in an **Open House** to share ways we each can be involved in putting the plan into action.

THRIVEINDIANAPOLIS.COM



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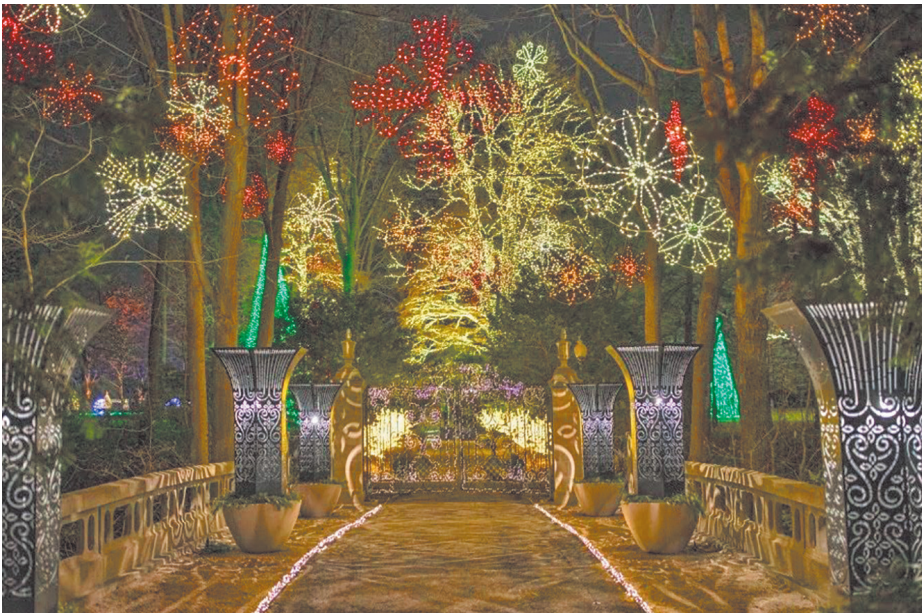
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YOU'RE
THANKFUL
FOR
THIS...**

Give to the Indiana Forest Alliance
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inspired your love of forests.

#ThankfulForForests



IndianaForestAlliance.org



WINTERLIGHTS AT NEWFIELDS

THROUGH JAN. 6

It's the second year for this holiday light extravaganza on the grounds of **Newfields**. Stunning displays transform the Lilly House and lawn into a winter wonderland of over 1.5 million lights. 5-9 p.m. every night; \$25 non-members, \$20 members. Online discounts for advance purchase.

CIRCLE OF LIGHTS

FRIDAY, NOV. 24

It's the official kick-off to the holiday season in Indianapolis. Bring the whole family and join tens of thousands of other Hoosiers at the base of **Monument Circle** for food and festivities topped off by the lighting of the "World's Largest Christmas Tree." Celebration begins at 6 p.m., tree lights up around 8 p.m. Circle of Lights

BUTLER BALLET: THE NUTCRACKER

NOV. 29-DEC. 2

There is no shortage of *Nutcracker* performances to choose from over the next few weeks, but this is one of our favorites. Imagine dancing the difficult role of Clara, the girl at the center of the Nutcracker story. This year the title role goes to 20-year-old Butler junior Amber Wickey. **Clowes Memorial Hall**; tickets \$28 and up.

BROZONE: CHRISTMAS DON'T BE LATE

NOV. 30-DEC. 16

Are you now or have you ever been a member of a boy band fan club? Then you'll love the **IndyFringe** offering of *BroZone*, the story of a past-their-prime, Midwestern boy band. After being offered a once-in-a-lifetime gig in California, the band gets snowed in at the airport on Christmas Eve on their way to the show. Will they ever get to melt the hearts of former teeny-boppers with their new dad bods or will their career be put forever on ice? \$15 advance, \$20 door.

HOLIDAY AUTHOR FAIR

SATURDAY, DEC. 1

During this annual event, more than 70 authors will gather at the **Indiana History Center** for mixing, mingling, and book signing. Book topics will range from sports and biography to youth historical fiction and politics and more. Author Fair guests can pose for photos with Santa, enter to win a gift basket, and enjoy a special performance by the Circle City Chamber Choir. Free.

JANE LYNCH: A SWINGIN' LITTLE CHRISTMAS

SATURDAY, DEC. 1

The wonderful Jane Lynch brings her swingin' Christmas party to the **Carmel Center for the Performing Arts** for a night of retro-inspired holiday favorites. Joined by friends Kate Flannery (Meredith on NBC's *The Office*); singer-producer Tim Davis (vocal arranger from *Glee*), and the Tony Guerrero Jazz Quintet, Lynch and company are good fun and great entertainment.



FAMILY CHRISTMAS AT THE HARRISON HOME

SATURDAY, DEC. 1

Stop by the **home of President and Mrs. Harrison** for a glimpse of a Victorian Family Christmas. The family will be home wrapping presents, planning parties, and decorating the Christmas tree. Tour the beautiful historic house, interact with a truly dedicated cast of historic re-enactors and travel back in time for only \$10.

PET PHOTO NIGHT AT CASTLETON MALL

SUNDAY, DEC. 2

Bring your fur babies to the mall for a special photo session with Santa. Why should human babies have all the fun? Don't worry, they do this at a time when kids are not in line, and they do a big clean-up after to remove any allergens. Several photo packages available. Prices vary. 6-7:30 p.m.

ELF AT THE ANTHENAUEUM

Monday DEC. 3

The Athenaeum is hosting a holiday movie series on Mondays in December. The fun kicks off on Dec. 3 with Will Ferrell's *Elf*. (Followed by *It's A Wonderful Life* and *National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation* on subsequent weeks). Show starts at 7 p.m. Tickets \$10.

AN EVENING WITH THE AUTHORS*

Tuesday, Dec. 4

Join the fun at **White Rabbit Cabaret** in Fountain Square for this monthly comedy show that uses as its premise an evening with authors touting their own work. Hilarious every month, but December's show promises to be extra-funny with a lineup that includes Stephen Vincent Giles, Austin Reel, Joe Bates, Gwen Sunkel and Pauling Shypula. \$5 cover. **See Seth Johnson's story on pg. 15**



BORDER ART BIG AND SMALL

ENRIQUE CHIU ON THE MEXICAN SIDE OF THE BORDER //

Mexican Artists Confront Trump's Wall From Tijuana to the Tube Factory

BY **DAN GROSSMAN** // DGROSSMAN@NUVO.NET

Donald Trump's visit to the U.S.-Mexico border in order to view eight wall prototypes earlier this year provoked varied artistic responses both here and to the South.

Laura Ortiz Vega's exhibition, *No USA Return*, at **Tube Factory artspace** in Garfield Park, on view **through Jan. 12, 2019**, is one such response. Her fanciful paintings of wall prototypes, "The Great Eight," form the centerpiece of this exhibition.

Written on each painting are the adjectives Trump has most often used to describe the wall in his tweets and speeches; great, biggest, impenetrable, physical, tall, powerful, beautiful, and incredible.

Each adjectulation, as it were, is depicted as a graffiti "thread painting" and set on a backdrop of acrylic paint on paper. The paintings not only depict each wannabe prototype, but also the vast desert landscape beyond.

The "thread paintings" for which the

Mexico City-based Vega has become known, borrow from the arts and crafts of the indigenous Huichol people of Western Mexico. Her process involves first covering a canvas with natural beeswax. Vega then uses differently-colored cotton Perlé embroidery thread as a medium to create her depictions. It's meticulous, labor-intensive, work.

"It's the same [Huichol] technique but I've been working with it," says Vega. "That traditional spiritual imagery is very important to me."

The subjects of her work in "The Great Eight," on the other hand, are walls and graffiti, just as in much of her previous work with embroidery. In this work she documents graffiti that she has come across, and photographed, in Mexico and elsewhere in her travels.

By employing indigenous technique to portray graffiti, which she calls "very manly and public," she deliberately sets up contrasts

for viewers to explore.

Vega began research for "The Great Eight"—where she found reference images of the wall prototypes for her paintings—after she received an invitation to exhibit at Tube Factory from curator Shauta Marsh.

"I thought my work was done but [curator Shauta Marsh] asked me 'what about doing something with the issue of the border?'" says Vega.

Born in Mexico City in 1975, Vega first started taking photographs of the graffiti near her parents' house 12 years ago. "They were all erased with awful political propaganda," she says. "So I decided to preserve the pictures in a way, taking pictures wherever I go."

It's these works of graffiti that she has given a sort of permanence in her art.

In doing the research for *No USA Return*—a title that references road signs frequently found on U.S. roads bound to Mexico—Vega also found online photos of plastic water

WHAT // *Laura Ortiz Vega: No USA Return*

WHEN // Through Jan. 12, 2019

WHERE // Tube Factory artspace,
more info at tubefactory.org

TICKETS // **FREE**

bottles of water scattered in the desert. These bottles placed there by volunteers in order to prevent border crossers from dying of thirst.

Thus you also find in this exhibition a wall-hanging altarpiece composed of plastic water jugs marked with encouraging messages. Vega noted, when talking about this exhibition, that the opening date was Nov. 2, the Day of the Dead in Mexico.

In 2017 migrant deaths rose on either side of the border—from 412 from 398 the year before—even as the number of crossings fell, according to *The Guardian*.

No USA Return also features several videos which help contextualize Vega's artwork, in-

cluding *Kikito, Tecate*, which documents the work of French artist JR along the border.

JR, a French artist known for his work with large-scale photography, created an enormous billboard out of plywood, overlooking the border fence, in Tecate, Mexico. On the billboard JR and his assistants affixed a blown-up photographic image of Kikito, a toddler who lives with his parents adjacent to where the billboard was built.

The resulting work depicts the toddler in such a way that he seems to grab the border fence as if it were a toy.

The exhibition at Tube, however, doesn't attempt to survey all the artists who have been, or who have created work about, near, adjacent to, or on the U.S.-Mexico border. (Such an exhibition would have to be very large.)

One contemporary artist not mentioned in *No USA Return*, perhaps the best known, is Tijuana-based Enrique Chiu, who has led the painting of el Mural de la Hermandad—the Brotherhood Mural—on a 2-kilometer section of the border fence on the Mexican side.

During the exact same time Donald Trump was in San Diego inspecting wall prototypes in March, Chiu was in Tijuana, painting the steel fence on the Mexican side, almost within sight of the American president.

This project, one that might ultimately beautify Trump's entire border wall, started out small. In 2015, Chiu was invited to paint a mural by the Border Angels, the San Diego based nonprofit organization that assists immigrants, advocates for immigrant rights, and places water bottles in the desert along migrant routes. It was the same organization that Laura Ortiz Vega had called up in her online research.

"They invited me to represent peace and I made this drawing and that was the first painting we did at the border wall," Chiu says. "This was a peace mural."

A few months after that Dan Watman, the coordinator of the Binational Friendship Garden, invited Chiu to paint a 10-meter-long "mural reflection" near the Tijuana beach.

Watman and his group are the caretakers of small gardens along the border fence, showcasing native plants and wildflowers. The beachside garden nowadays is mostly on the Mexican side of the fence, due to restrict-



FROM "THE GREAT EIGHT" // LAURA ORTIZ VEGA



"ROUGE" // LAURA ORTIZ VEGA



"PULSE" // LAURA ORTIZ VEGA

ed access on the U.S. side.

"The mural was a reflection of the grass and the flowers and the rocks," says Chiu.

Chiu, originally from Guadalajara—who exhibits his own artwork internationally—soon got it in his head to go big. At the time, he thought that Hillary Clinton might win the presidency and that it might be possible to paint on both sides of the border doing some kind of binational art event, with families on both sides of the border, passing brushes to one another between the fence posts. But the U.S. Border patrol denied his re-



LAURA ORTIZ VEGA // PHOTO BY DAN GROSSMAN

quest, one week before the 2016 presidential election, to paint on the U.S. side.

In the immediate aftermath of Trump's victory, Chiu started the Brotherhood Mural.

"I started to paint Thursday, Dec 1, 2016," he says. "I was thinking 'whatever's coming, I'm going to buy some paint. Whoever shows up can paint with us.' When I got there there were five women and girls there waiting plus Channel 6 and Univision from San Diego. We painted from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. On Friday, Dec. 2, when I got there in the morning, it was 50 people. Some of them

were like 'hey can we come back tomorrow.' I said, "Yeah. We're going to be painting every Saturday and Sunday. On Sunday Dec. 4, it was like 200 people."

Eventually, more than 3,600 would show up over a 2-year-period. Often they came with their own brushes, paint, and rollers. Some of those who came—and they came from Tijuana, elsewhere in Mexico, and from all over the world—had specific ideas about what they wanted to paint. Others needed guidance, which Chiu was happy to provide.

Chiu didn't use social media to raise money for the project—at first. Initially he wound up putting \$1,000 of his money towards supplies.

"Here in Tijuana it's hard because we don't have funds for something big," says Chiu. "That's why I started with my own money because a lot of people weren't going to believe that I want to paint the border. When they saw me with the paint, they thought 'this guy's serious.'"

Eventually Chiu started a Kickstarter campaign. Kickstarter, in turn, posted a video about the mural which went viral, hitting 500,000 views.

But he wasn't only successful raising funds; his project was also, he says, changing perceptions.

"A lot of people they now say 'the Brotherhood Mural,' they don't say 'The border wall.' That has changed a lot of minds about where they are, in a positive way, to change something that is wrong."

Chiu's one rule for painting the fence, in fact, is to keep things positive, which means no political sloganeering.

Often, he says it's people from the U.S. side who want to paint political slogans. "I say, 'hey don't do that. We're not here to put bad messages against someone,'" he says. "But the people from Mexico feel differently; they feel it's something symbolic."

Still, Chiu wasn't able to ignore the politics of it all, especially when media on both sides of the border were portraying him as an anti-Trump. During an interview, he says, a CNN correspondent asked him what he would do if Trump replaced the current fence with an impenetrable wall.

"No, I don't think he's going to put the border wall," Chiu responded. "But, if he puts it there, I'll paint it." ■



CHRISTKINDLMARKT OFFERS TASTE OF GERMANY

BY RITA KOHN // RKOHNN@NUVO.NET

The second annual Carmel Christkindlmarkt is underway and German mulled beers, wines and cider are an integral part of the celebration.

A 33-foot tall wooden Steinbach Gluhwein Pyramid towers over the festivities, aglow with layers of lights and a rotating Nativity scene surmounting a base of spigots to dispense choices of six mulled wines, two specialty mulled beers, a hard apple cider, and five varieties of punch. If it's mulled, it's hot; otherwise, it's served cold.

The towering mecca of libations surrounded by huts is Brigadoon-like with an ethereal feel of a pop-up village fronting the Tarkington Theatre entrance.

New this year is a Children's Corner, with art activities and a "Passport" to fill in for prizes. Ice-skating returns along with huts offering up a wide array of holiday handicrafts, including ceramic boot and train-shaped mugs from which you can sip your beverages as you wander the grounds for a taste of traditional German foods.

Gluhbir [mulled beer], brewed with cherries and spices and served hot, makes its "first time ever U.S. appearance," according to the server. It's fruity at 6.5 percent ABV. Saxony-based Radeberger Pilsner is served cold. At 4.6 percent ABV, it has been an international favorite since 1872.

Gluhwein is the traditional all-around German hot mulled sweet red Christmas wine, spiced with cinnamon sticks, cloves, star aniseed, citrus, sugar and vanilla pods; it's 8.8 percent ABV. Blueberry and Cherry, each at 8.5 percent ABV, also represent the breadth of Germany. Meanwhile, the Mulled White at 9.6 percent ABV stems from Nuremberg.

Sun King is featuring Small Batch Kringlebock exclusively at Christkindlmarkt, with a rich aroma and malty flavors of

brown sugar and molasses.

Southern Indiana-based Winzerwald Winery created Spiced Cranberry Mulled Wine and a Spiced Rose that specially pleases with soft cinnamon and spice.

The Hard Apple Cider from Wisconsin is 5.0 percent. The punches from Germany include Egg at 8.2 percent, Baked Apple at 9.0 percent, Elderberry at 7.5 percent.

Non-alcoholic punches include a children's and cranberry-orange.

Gear up for German-made specialties: Laugenbrezel, a hand-rolled pretzel with choice of mustard dips; Wurst, a specialty sausage you can slather with mustards and sauerkraut; Raclette, a portion of melted wheel of semi-hard cheese served with bread and charcuterie; Lebkuchen, a cookie made with molasses and warmth-imparting spices; Stollen, fruit bread laden with dried and candied fruits, nuts and spices, and covered with powdered sugar or icing sugar.

The coffee hut features a smooth vanilla latte. Wander and discover even more. And be forewarned: despite access to fire pits surrounding the huts, it's bitter cold with the cutting wind; dress warmly.

The Carmel Gluhwein Pyramid is a one-of-a-kind creation by Steinbach-Volkunst, whose generational roots are makers of handcrafted nutcrackers from of the historic village of Marienberg in the heart of the Ore Mountains in Saxony. The Steinbach story is as entrepreneurial-centric as is Carmel's.

The Carmel Christkindlmarkt is open Wednesday-Sunday through Dec. 23 (closed Nov. 22 for Thanksgiving Day). Wednesdays and Thursdays 4-9 p.m.; Fridays, Saturdays & Sundays noon-9 p.m. Find more information at CarmelChristkindlmarkt.com. **N**

BREWERY DIRECTORY

**The Brewery Directory in the issues of NUVO once a month.*



GREENWOOD

MashCraft Brewing
1140 N. St. Road 135
mashcraft.com

INDIANAPOLIS

Bier Brewery & Tap Room
5133 E. 65th St.
bierbrewery.com

Big Lug Canteen
1816 E. 86th St.
biglugcanteen.com

Indiana City
24 Shelby St.
indianacitybeer.com

Liter House
5301 Winthrop Ave.
literhouse.com

MashCraft
2205 N. Delaware St.
mashcraft.com

Upland Brewing Co.
4842 N. College Ave.
uplandbeer.com

Sun King Brewery
135 N. College Ave.
sunkingbrewing.com

TwoDEEP Brewing Co.
714 N. Capitol Ave.
twodeepbrewing.com

MCCORDSVILLE

Scarlet Lane Brewing Co.
7724 Depot St.
scarletlanebrew.com

NOBLESVILLE

Barley Island Brewing Co.
639 E. Conner St.
barleyisland.com

Deer Creek Brewery
17661 Cumberland Road
deercreekbrewery.com

PLAINFIELD

Black Swan Brewpub
7655, 2067 Hadley Road
blackswanbrewpub.com

Brew Link Brewery
212 E. Main St.
brewlinkbrewing.com

WHITELAND

Nailers Brewing Co.
6001 N. US-31 suite #14
nailersbrewing.com

BLOOMINGTON

Upland Brewing Co.
350 W. 11th St.
uplandbeer.com

CARMEL

Danny Boy Beer Works
12702 Meeting House Road
317-564-0622

Deviate Brewing
4004 West 96th St.
317-374-8249

Flix Brewhouse
2206 E. 116th St.
flixbrewhouse.com

Union Brewing
622 S. Range Line Road Suite Q
unionbrewingco.com

Upland Brewing Co.
820 E. 116th St.
uplandbeer.com

Sun King Brewery
351 Monon Blvd.
sunkingbrewing.com

FISHERS

Four Day Ray Brewing
11671 Lantern Road
fourdayray.com

MashCraft Fishers
11069 Allisonville Road
mashcraft.com

Redemption Alewerks
7035 E. 96th St.
redemptionalewerks.com

Sun King Brewery
7848 E. 96th St.
sunkingbrewing.com



Black Circle Brewing Co.
2201 E. 46th St.
blackcirclebrewing.com

Books and Brews
(Multiple locations)
booksnbrews.com

Broad Ripple Brewpub
842 E 65th St.
broadripplebrewpub.com

Centerpoint Brewing Co.
1125 E. Brookside Ave.
centerpointbrewing.com

Chilly Water Brewing Co.
719 Virginia Ave.
chillywaterbrewing.com

Flat 12 Bierwerks
414 N. Dorman St.
flat12.me

Fountain Square Brewing
1301 Barth Ave.
fountainsquarebrewery.com

Garfield Brewery
2310 Shelby St.
garfieldbrewery.com



FAKE AUTHORS, REAL FUNNY

The Uniquely Zany Comedy Show That is 'An Evening with the Authors'*

BY: SETH JOHNSON // SJOHNSON@NUVO.NET

At first glance, *An Evening with the Authors** may seem like your typical hoity-toity book reading. Turns out it's just the opposite.

"On its surface, the show sounds a little buttoned-up, but it's really far from that," says *An Evening with the Authors** producer Isaac Landfert. "Dracula is a reappearing character. We had the ghost of JonBenét Ramsey recently. A lot of weird stuff goes on in the show."

Every first Tuesday of the month at White Rabbit Cabaret, *An Evening with the Authors** brings some of Indy's funniest comedians together for a production unlike any other. A tradition nearly four-and-a-half years in the making, the show features comics acting as fake authors, with each presenting his or her own zany, fake book. The result is an always-hilarious amalgamation of literary satire and sketch comedy that's now been taken on the road to several cities throughout the Midwest.

Started in June 2014, *An Evening with the Authors** is a show that was originally conceived by comedian Jim Leugers, who has since passed away. "He just asked a bunch of comics that he knew to do the show, and after some pressuring and nagging, we finally put it together," recalls Stephen Vincent Giles, who still routinely performs at *An Evening with the Authors**. "The first show went off really well, and the concept of the show seemed to gel almost immediately." Having continued on strong in the wake of Leugers' passing, *An Evening with the Authors** is made possible by a core group of active Indianapolis comedians, who regularly recruit guests to take part in the fun as well. In addition to Giles and Landfert, the core group of Authors* includes Jonathan Pfendler, Pauline Shypula, Joe Bates, Austin Reel, and Sam Griswold.

"Not to say there aren't great comics in



// PHOTOS BY CHARLIE CLARK



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT, STEPHEN VINCENT GILES, ISAAC LANDFERT, AND JOE BATES.

the city who haven't participated in our show, but we use the best comics in the city for the most part," Landfert says. "The people who are on the show are generally pretty well-established performers. Out of the seven of us that do the show, our group really is more active than most."

He continues, "Three of our people work for The Bob & Tom Show. Quite a few of us have TV credits, online streaming credits, or writing credits on different things. So as much as our approaches are different, the

work ethic is mostly what shows through."

Having been a part of *An Evening with the Authors** for three years now, Joe Bates is no stranger to comedy. "I've been in four different scenes doing stand-up," he says. "I started out in Houston. I was out in the Bay Area for a while. And then, I was in Chicago for a little bit before I moved down here." Having had a hand in other well-established comedy scenes, he can truly reflect on this show's one-of-a-kind nature.

"When I came to Indianapolis, it was

WHAT // An Evening with the Authors*

WHEN // Tuesday, Dec. 4

WHERE // White Rabbit Cabaret

TICKETS // \$5 at the door

the first thing that made me love this scene," Bates says of *An Evening with the Authors**. "The previous cities I was in all had their unique things, but this show is the most unique concept I've seen of any of the scenes."

More of a traditional stand-up comedian, Bates has enjoyed the challenge *An Evening with the Authors** has presented him with. "If you see my stand-up, it's all over the place," Bates says. "So it helps clear my mind. It's a really good writing practice for me." Over the years, he's come up with all sorts of wacky ideas. "I had this character that was an astronaut that gambled on space—the Pete Rose of NASA," Bates says. "He gambled on the Challenger, and he won."

Much like Bates, Giles has favorite roles he's written for himself at *An Evening with the Authors**—one of which being a poet laureate from the bayou. "Usually when I'm trying to decide on a character, I take a genre and then a character type or personality that's the complete opposite, and I just want to smash them together," Giles says.

Unlike his work as a stand-up, *An Evening with the Authors** presents Giles with an opportunity to be part of a creative team of topnotch comics. With this backing, he feels his best work comes out.

"I'm emboldened and have this confidence, and then I try something new or I'm a little more daring than I am at stand-up," Giles says. "They give me the confidence to go do something. And when a comedian does something daring or tries something new, that's usually when the best stuff happens." ■

DEC.
14EVENT // A CHREECEMAS STORY
WHERE // The Vogue
TICKETS // thevogue.comDEC.
31EVENT // "Beats & Bubbles" New Year's Eve
WHERE // The Vogue
TICKETS // thevogue.com

REV. PEYTON'S BIG DAMN BAND IN THE SOUTHERN INDIANA HILLS //



REVEREND AND BREEZY PEYTON ARE THANKFUL FOR EACH OTHER

The Brown County Couple Reflects on Life of Rural Blues Adventures

BY: SETH JOHNSON // S.JOHNSON@NUVO.NET

Reverend and Breezy have always had a relationship rooted in music.

"On our first date, I actually played him a Charley Patton-influenced album that a friend of mine named Jimbo Mathus (of the Squirrel Nut Zippers) did," Breezy says. "I don't think there are many 19-year-old girls listening to Charley Patton records at that age."

2018 marks 15 years of marriage for the dynamic blues couple. Both lifelong Hoosiers, Reverend and Breezy have called Brown County home for most of their time together. "We are in a different town every day on tour," Breezy says. "When we come home, it's nice to decompress and come back to a place where things are very simple and calm."

While they may still be out on the road more days than not, this living situation is

certainly better than the one they had in the early days of Rev. Peyton's Big Damn Band.

"Prior to living n Brown County, we were homeless and on tour," Breezy says. "We spent our time camping in Brown County and living in Flava Dave's basement."

Even before they ever went on a date, Reverend and Breezy lived pretty interconnected lives. "My best friend is sisters with one of his best friends from high school," Breezy says. "They had tried to get us together for years, but for whatever reason I guess we thought they were full of shit. We finally went through with it, and we really haven't been apart since then." Breezy's washboard playing, in fact, can be

"At the end of the day, what we are is a rural blues band from rural Indiana."

— REVEREND PEYTON

traced back to their first date.

"I said, 'Man, it'd be fun to get a washboard and mess around on it. People just don't play the washboard very much,'" she remembers. "The next day, he went and picked one up at an antique store. So we started messing around on it when we first got together."

Although he's known for his masterful guitar playing, Reverend suffers from ganglion cysts in his hands that have plagued him from time to time. When he and Breezy first met, he was actually unable to use his hands due to surgery. "They were worried that he may not be able to play guitar ever again," Breezy remembers. "Sometimes I think that was for a reason. If I had known

how obsessed this guy was with guitar and that my life would be nothing but guitar every minute when we first got together, I probably wouldn't have given him the time of day. Maybe that's how he sucked me in."

While dealing with these cysts has certainly created struggles for Reverend over the years, the bluesman now sees his hand condition as a blessing in disguise.

"I'm on what's called the hyper flexibility spectrum, so my joints are hyper flexible," Reverend says. "For some people, that can be debilitating. But luckily, I'm one of the few people that's in the middle, where you can actually use it to your advantage."

He continues, "There are certain things that I can do on the guitar that wouldn't be possible if I wasn't on the hyper flexibility spectrum. That's something that I didn't know about until fairly recently."

A longtime student of the guitar, Reverend first found his fascination for the instrument while listening to his father play as a youngster. “He told me that I loved it, and that I couldn’t believe all this music that he was making,” Reverend says. “He said, ‘If you get good, we’ll get an amp.’ I’ve never put it down since. I mean never.” From an early age, Reverend has dug deep into the annals of blues music, thanks to his father’s initial influence.

“There was always music around,” Reverend recalls of his childhood. “My dad was really into guys like Johnny Winter and the Stones. From those fellas, it’s not hard to go straight to guys like Muddy Waters and Howlin’ Wolf.”

As his blues explorations continued, Reverend fell further and further in love with the storied American genre. “I started delving deeper and deeper and getting back to names like Charley Patton, Furry Lewis, Blind Lemon, John Hurt, and Mississippi Fred McDowell,” Reverend says. “The older, deeper country-blues stuff was what I was really drawn to.” As he began trying to emulate the style of these greats, Reverend actually found that his hand condition was more of a help than a hindrance.

“It took my hand problems to really make me proficient,” Reverend says. “It was like something clicked in my brain. With country-blues guitar style, you essentially have to be able to play two things at once. A lot of that is not in your hands—it’s actually in your mind.”

Over the years, Reverend’s guitar stylings have become a signature piece of the Big Damn Band puzzle. On their latest record, however, Rev. Peyton and company specifically zeroed in on the ‘50s studio sound. Titled *Poor Until Payday*, Reverend had classic 45s in mind when he conceived the record.

“Imagine it’s 1955, and Howlin’ Wolf, Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis, Bo Diddley, and Ray Charles are all on the radio brand new,” Reverend says. “That stuff comes across so exciting it’s just hard to believe. I started collecting 45s and immersing myself in that era of music, not just in terms of style but in terms of production and the emotional excitement level that comes out of those records.”



In order to accomplish this sound, Rev. Peyton’s Big Damn Band had to record with the right gear. “Over the last couple years, I’ve been focusing hard on recording gear,” Reverend says. “Luckily, Primary Sound Studios [where the band recorded *Poor Until Payday*] in Bloomington has a lot of great gear too. Between mine and theirs, it was like a vintage audio show.” In addition to having the right gear, Reverend also made sure *Poor Until Payday* was recorded using old school techniques.

“There’s very little on this record in terms of technology that’s newer than 1959,” Reverend says. “When you listen, remember that this was done live to tape in

a style that’s similar to what they would’ve done at Chess Records, Stax, or Sun.”

As for the album’s lyrical content, Reverend tried to focus on a brighter future.

“In the back of my mind, I needed to have these songs that were a reminder for me that there’s better days ahead,” Reverend says. “So there is that theme that runs through this record maybe more so than other records.”

He continues, “Breezy and I have been through an awful lot. So for me personally, it was just a reminder that we’ve been through a lot and are better for it. The best days are ahead. Sometimes you need to pep talk yourself.”

WHO // Reverend Peyton’s
Big Damn Band

WHEN // Friday, Nov. 24

WHERE // The Vogue

TICKETS // \$15-18; thevogue.com

In particular, Rev. Peyton’s Big Damn Band has encountered some financial obstacles due to foul play from a record distributor. “We worked with a record label in Indianapolis to get distribution, and that record label stole all the money that we made,” Reverend says. “So it’s been tough. There are always people around in the music business looking to steal from artists.” Circumstances such as this are made even more difficult when you’re an entity as grassroots as Rev. Peyton’s Big Damn Band.

“It’s tough when you’re independent because you don’t have the access to some of the big lawyers,” Reverend says. “And even if you do, there’s only so much that can happen. It’s kind of crazy the way the music business is. People can steal from you, and then they can just wave at you and go, ‘Bye-bye.’”

Nevertheless, Reverend and Breezy are just trying to stay positive while sticking to their vigorous Brown County sound.

“At the end of the day, what we are is a rural blues band from rural Indiana,” Reverend says. “We’ve done everything on our own without some big, wealthy benefactor, without some major label, and without a big movie theme song. To me, the album’s title is just about us waiting for that big day to come.”

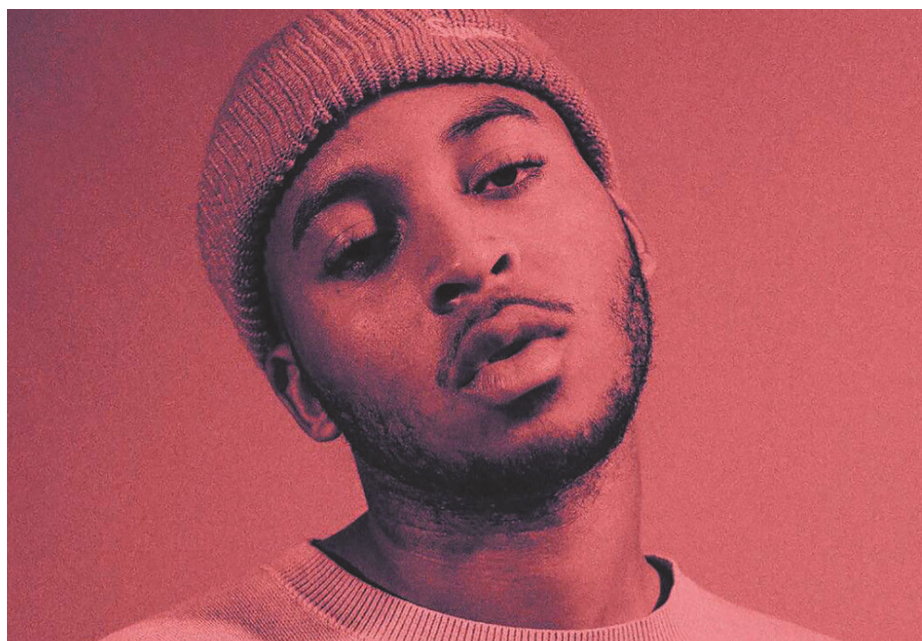
This November, Rev. Peyton’s Big Damn Band will again return to Indianapolis for their traditional day-after-Thanksgiving show at the Vogue. “It sort of that big homecoming,” Breezy says of the yearly Vogue show. “We get to see a lot of our family and friends.” After a full year of touring, the show is always a great time to experience the Big Damn Band live up close and in person.

“For us, that’s the time of year where we’ve been out all year,” Breezy says. “I think it’s always one of our best performances.” ■

MATHAIUS YOUNG RETURNS WITH “TAKE THE NIGHT AWAY 2”

Indy Rapper Unveils Impressive Follow-up to 2017 Release

BY: SETH JOHNSON // SJOHNSON@NUVO.NET



Oftentimes, a sequel can pale in comparison to its predecessor, whether you're talking movies, music, TV, or video games. For this reason, Indianapolis rapper/producer Mathaius Young wasn't originally keen on creating a sequel to his 2017 album *Take The Night Away*.

“When you put that pressure on yourself to do a sequel, you don't always live up to the hype,” Young says. “I was just like, ‘I ain't trying to ruin my career by calling it *Take The Night Away 2*, and then it doesn't have the impact that I think it's gonna have as a follow-up project.’”

Thankfully, Young decided to stick with the sequel idea, producing one of Indianapolis' most exciting hip-hop releases in recent years. Over the course of *Take The*

Night Away 2, the Indianapolis artist shows his versatility both as a rapper and producer repeatedly impressing throughout the album's eight ear-grabbing tracks. In addition to his own production work, *Take The Night Away 2* also features contributions from famed hip-hop producer WondaGurl, who has produced songs for artists such as Drake, Jay-Z, Rihanna, and Travis Scott.

Born in Cleveland, Young moved to Indianapolis around the age of 12. A graduate of Herron High School, he originally started producing songs as a teenager before eventually giving the rap thing a try.

“I was producing first, and then I started rapping because nobody would use my beats,” says Young, who recently had two beats featured on Sirius Blvck's *Major Threat*

album. “I was really just trying to see what I could do. I had a whole bunch of songs just sitting around and was like, ‘I'm going to start taking this seriously.’”

Around this time, Odd Future ringleader Tyler the Creator was also coming into his own, serving as an early influence for Young. “He used to do these live stream videos back in the day, and I used to watch some of his stuff,” Young recalls. “I was like, ‘Yeah. He's rapping over his own beats. I think I'm about to do this.’” Over time, he eventually was able to sharpen his craft as a producer.

“I was just scouring the internet, looking on YouTube, and seeing how to do little stuff,” Young says.

“Once I learned the basics, then I took my own direction. I pick up stuff pretty quickly. So once I picked it up, it was over from there.”

Hand-in-hand with the production work, Young was also pushing himself forward as a rapper. In looking back on his progression, he remembers doing some very early performances in a Bloomington basement. “My friend Jeron Braxton used to have this big house in Bloomington, and he'd throw house shows,” Young says.

“I think one of my first shows was at his house. From there, people just started paying attention.” Eventually, word spread to Indianapolis, where Young started performing for larger and larger audiences.

“House shows turned into tiny venues in the city and then bigger venues,” he says. “It was just a word of mouth thing with people seeing what was going on.”

Along the way, Young met Canadian producer WondaGurl through a friendship he'd developed with L.A.'s Tre Capital. A young producer in her own right, WondaGurl served as an inspiration to Young. “Early on, I was definitely inspired by her production, just seeing how young she was,” he says. “She just showed me that I could do it too.” Like many other internationally acclaimed artists, Young was also drawn to WondaGurl's sound as well.

“Her production style is everything that I like,” he says. “It's very futuristic, forward, and colorful, and that's kind of how I am as a person too. I relate to it.”

Over time, Young and WondaGurl have also grown close as friends, which is what led to their continue collaboration on *Take The Night Away 2*. “She's like my best friend,” Young says. “She willingly gave me a lot of beats to choose from. We've just been working over the years and building a friendship.”

It doesn't take much listening to realize that WondaGurl and Young are on a similar wavelength either.

From open to close, *Take The Night Away 2* is a complete listen that's as smooth as a Steph Curry 3-pointer. As for the album's overall message, Young hopes fans will find in it what they need.

“It was originally just supposed to be a playlist that I would listen to [while] driving, so that kind of took on its own life,” he says. “It's developed into a more personal meaning. Right now, I'd rather the listener try to describe what it means to them.” ■



FRIDAY // 11.23

Reverend Peyton's Big Damn Band at The Vogue

Rev., Breezy, and the rest of the Big Damn Band are back from a recent stint in Europe and will return to The Vogue for what has become a holiday tradition, a blow-out show on the day after Thanksgiving. They are touring in support of a brand new record, *Poor Until Payday*, an homage to the classic 1950s sound of radio hits by Howlin' Wolf, Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis, Bo Diddley, and Ray Charles.



SATURDAY // 11.24

Babes in Boyland: Chicks Who Rock at Flat 12 Bierwerks

Get to Flat 12 Bierwerks for Babes in Boyland, a night highlighting Indy's best female-fronted bands, comedy and art with all proceeds going to support The Julian Center. Catch sets from Moxxie, Orchard Keepers, and Joy Caroline Mills while you're perusing the Fei Vintage Apparel pop up shop and maybe grab a limited small-batch beer collaboration between the brewery and Holly Miller of Black Acre Brewing Co.



THURSDAY // 11.29

mewithoutYou at HI-FI

Last year mewithoutYou celebrated the 15th anniversary of their debut album [A-B] Life with a tour performing the record in its entirety and it was easily the best show I have ever fucking been to. The band released *[Untitled]* a few months ago and I was ready to be a little let down, with hopes so high for them to return to a heavier sound. Holy shit, I wasn't. Don't miss them at HI-FI, I'll be the guy who already knows every word to the new songs somehow.



SATURDAY // 12.1

Low Pone Queer Dance Party at Pioneer

It's the first Saturday of the month ya'll, so you know what that means. Low Pone is taking over Pioneer all night for the dopest dance party in town (according to your Best of Indy 2018 votes). This month's special guests are Abhora from Los Angeles and Maxi Glamour, a gender non-conforming demonoid from St. Louis. As always, the event will be hosted by Mary Fagdelane and Stevie Dicks with DJ Little Town spinning the tunes.



SUNDAY // 12.2

Canned Heat at The Vogue

If you're into psych-rock and have never listened to Canned Heat, you are fuckin' up. Formed in Los Angeles in '65, they're named after a Tommy Johnson song from 1928 about an alcoholic, so desperate for booze that he resorted to drinking Sterno. While the current line-up of the band features none of the original members, it does include all three surviving members of the 'classic line-up' who played with the band at Woodstock. So, close enough.

WEDNESDAY // 11.21

Detour North, Rare Candy, Riot Shield Hoosier Dome 6 p.m. \$10, all-ages

Full Moon Dogs and Bigger Than Elvis Radio Radio 9 p.m. \$5, 21+

Pint Night Spins: Naptown Nicey Pioneer 9 p.m. **FREE**, 21+

Melody Inn Annual Thanksgiving Eve Bash Melody Inn 7 p.m. \$5, 21+

FRIDAY // 11.23

Sirius Blvck & DJ Rusty Redenbacher Indiana City Brewing Company 8 p.m. **FREE**, 21+

Nick Dittmeier and the Sawdusters Duke's Indy 8 p.m. **FREE**, 21+

Tell All Your Friends: An Emo Nite Pioneer 11 p.m. **FREE**, 21+

Megan Simonton - Tribute to Anita Baker The Jazz Kitchen 7:30 p.m. \$25, 21+

Bad Dagger with Big Ninja Delight The Mousetrap 9 p.m. \$10, 21+

SATURDAY // 11.24

Peter & the Kings, Norman Oak, Hanz Bronze State Street Pub 9 p.m. **FREE**, 21+

Fresh Hops, Derick Howard The Mousetrap 11 p.m. \$8, 21+

The Slappies, Think Tank, GRLwood, & Nifty Skullet Melody Inn 9 p.m. \$6, 21+

The WHY Store Slippery Noodle Inn 8:30 p.m. \$10, 21+

SUNDAY // 11.25

Tracksuit Lyfestile, The Breakes Melody Inn 8 p.m. \$5, 21+

Acoustic Bluegrass Jam The Mousetrap 8:30 p.m. **FREE**, 21+

Savior Sundays The Patron Saint 10 p.m. **FREE**, 21+

WEDNESDAY // 11.28

Amy Ray Band w/ Chastity Brown HI-FI 8 p.m. \$18, 21+

Crocea Mors EP Release w/ Chelshots & Quasi Ragged Pioneer 7 p.m. **FREE**, 21+

Sound Lab with Oreo Jones Listen Hear 6 p.m. **FREE**, all-ages

Dino Launch Committee, The Sliding Glass, Wampus Milk Daddies, Mogon State Street Pub 9 p.m. \$5, 21+

THURSDAY // 11.29

Zap Black, Surgeons in Heat, Chives, Moon Goons Indiana City Brewing Company 7 p.m. **FREE**, 21+

Labour Day Weekend, summerbruise, Spicoli, Brooks Morales Healer 7 p.m. \$5, all-ages

CHVRCHES, AJR, The Struts Indiana Farmers Coliseum 7 p.m. \$25 - \$60, 18+

Cannibal Corpse w/ Hate Eternal The Vogue 8 p.m. \$25 - \$30, 21+

The Night Owl Country Band Duke's Indy 8 p.m. **FREE**, 21+

Heaven Honey, Team Leader, Radar Gold State Street Pub 9 p.m. \$5, 21+

Laura Rain & The Caesars Slippery Noodle Inn 8:30 p.m. \$5, 21+

FRIDAY // 11.30

Ishia w/ Cairo Jag, Kiddo, GRXZZ HI-FI 7:30 p.m. \$10, 21+

H1Z1, Dreamy D, Replaced By Robots State Street Pub 9 p.m. \$5, 21+

Rick Dodd & The Dickrods Melody Inn 7 p.m. \$5, 21+

Shift Bit The District Tap 10 p.m. **FREE**, 21+

SATURDAY // 12.1

The Weeks w/ The Lonely Biscuits HI-FI 8 p.m. \$14, 21+

Low Pone Queer Dance Party Pioneer 10 p.m. \$5, 21+

Blue Dream, Strange Foliage Square Cat Vinyl 8 p.m. \$5, all-ages

Yacht Rock Revue Egyptian Room at Old National Centre 9 p.m. \$25, 18+

Teenage Bottlerocket, The Jasons, Tightwire Melody Inn 9 p.m. \$15, 21+

Rod Tuffcurls & The Bench Press The Vogue 10 p.m. \$15, 21+

David Allan Coe 8 Seconds Saloon 8 p.m. \$10 - \$25, 21+

Philia w/ Porch Kat & Pet Envy The Mousetrap 9 p.m. \$8, 21+

Kingfish Black Circle Brewing Company 8 p.m. **FREE**, 21+

SUNDAY // 12.2

Volunteer Department, Nrvous, Adam Gross, Moon Ruin State Street Pub 9 p.m. \$5, 21+

Felly, Gypps, & Trip Carter Emerson Theater 7 p.m. \$20, all-ages

The Marcus King Band w/ Ida Mae The Bluebird (Bloomington) 7 p.m. \$20, 21+

MONDAY // 12.3

Death Cab for Cutie w/ Rayland Baxter Murat Theatre at Old National Centre 7:30 p.m. \$40 - \$85, all-ages

Gene Deer Slippery Noodle Inn 7:30 p.m. **FREE**, 21+

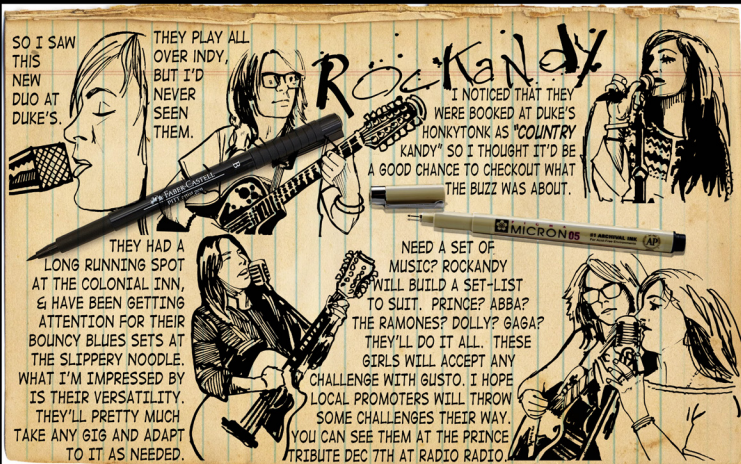
TUESDAY // 12.4

An Evening with Gabriel Kahane HI-FI 7 p.m. \$17, 21+

Union Suit Rally and GIRLS GUNS & GLORY Melody Inn 7 p.m. \$5, 21+

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FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

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♈ ARIES (March 21-April 19): Every year the bird known as the Arctic tern experiences two summers and enjoys more daylight than any other animal. That's because it regularly makes a long-distance journey from the Arctic to the Antarctic and back again. Let's designate this hardy traveler as your inspirational creature for the next 11 months. May it help animate you to experiment with brave jaunts that broaden and deepen your views of the world. I don't necessarily mean you should literally do the equivalent of circumnavigating the planet. Your expansive adventures might take place mostly in inner realms or closer to home.

♉ TAURUS (April 20-May 20): When the American Civil War began in 1861, the United States fractured. Four years later, the union was technically restored when the northern states defeated the southern states. At that time, African American slavery became illegal everywhere for the first time since the country's birth decades earlier. But there was a catch. The southern states soon enacted laws that mandated racial segregation and ensured that African Americans continued to suffer systematic disadvantages. Is there a comparable issue in your personal life? Did you at sometime in the past try to fix an untenable situation only to have it sneak back in a less severe but still debilitating form? The coming weeks will be an excellent time to finish the reforms; to enforce a thorough and permanent correction.

♊ GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Does an elusive giant creature with a long neck inhabit the waters of Loch Ness in northern Scotland? Alleged sightings have been reported since 1933. Most scientists dismiss the possibility that "Nessie" actually exists, but there are photos, films, and videos that provide tantalizing evidence. A government-funded Scottish organization has prepared contingency plans just in case the beast does make an unambiguous appearance. In that spirit, and in accordance with astrological omens, I recommend that you prepare yourself for the arrival in your life of intriguing anomalies and fun mysteries. Like Nessie, they're nothing to worry about, but you'll be better able to deal gracefully with them if you're not totally taken by surprise.

♋ CANCER (June 21-July 22): Does moss really "eat" rocks, as Cancerian author Elizabeth Gilbert attests in her novel *The Signature of All Things*? Marine chemist Martin Johnson says yes. Moss really does break down and release elements in solid stone. Gilbert adds, "Given enough time, a colony of moss can turn a cliff into gravel, and turn that gravel into topsoil." Furthermore, this hardy plant can grow virtually everywhere: in the tropics and frozen wastes, on tree bark and roofing slate, on sloth fur and snail shells. I propose that we make moss your personal symbol of power for now, Cancerian. Be as indomitable, resourceful, and resilient as moss.

♌ LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Let's shout out a big "THANKS!" and "HALLELUJAH!" to the enzymes in our bodies. These catalytic proteins do an amazing job of converting the food we eat into available energy. Without them, our cells would take forever to turn any particular meal into the power we need to walk, talk, and think. I bring this marvel to your attention, Leo, because now is a favorable time to look for and locate metaphorical equivalents of enzymes: influences and resources that will aid and expedite your ability to live the life you want to live.

♍ VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): "Every dreamer knows that it is entirely possible to be homesick for a place you've never been to, perhaps more homesick than for familiar ground," writes author Judith Thurman. I'm guessing you will experience this feeling in the coming weeks. What does it mean if you do? It may be your deep psyche's way of nudging you to find an energizing new sanctuary. Or perhaps it means you should search for fresh ways to feel peaceful and well-grounded. Maybe

it's a prod to push you outside your existing comfort zone so you can expand your comfort zone.

♎ LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Venice, Italy consists of 118 small islands that rise from a shallow lagoon. A network of 443 bridges keeps them all connected. But Venice isn't the world champion of bridges. The American city of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania holds that title, with 446. I nominate these two places to be your inspirational symbols in the coming weeks. It's time for you build new metaphorical bridges and take good care of your existing metaphorical bridges.

♏ SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): To aid and support your navigation through this pragmatic phase of your astrological cycle, I have gathered counsel from three productive pragmatists. First is author Helen Keller. She said she wanted to accomplish great and noble things, but her "chief duty" was "to accomplish small tasks as if they were great and noble." Second, author George Orwell believed that "to see what is in front of one's nose" requires never-ending diligence. Finally, author Pearl S. Buck testified that she didn't wait around until she was in the right mood before beginning her work. Instead, she invoked her willpower to summon the necessary motivation.

♐ SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Blackjack is a card game popular in gambling casinos. In the eternal struggle to improve the odds of winning big money, some blackjack players work in teams. One teammate secretly counts the cards as they're dealt and assesses what cards are likely to come up next. Another teammate gets subtle signals from his card-counting buddy and makes the bets. A casino in Windsor, Ontario pressed charges against one blackjack team, complaining that this tactic was deceptive and dishonest. But the court decided in the team's favor, ruling that the players weren't cheating but simply using smart strategy. In the spirit of these blackjack teams, Sagittarius, and in accordance with astrological omens, I urge you to better your odds in a "game" of your choice by using strategy that is almost as good as cheating but isn't actually cheating.

♑ CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): What has become of the metaphorical seeds you planted during the weeks after your last birthday? Have your intentions flourished? Have your dreams blossomed? Have your talents matured? Have your naive questions evolved into more penetrating questions? Be honest and kind as you answer these inquiries. Be thoughtful and big-hearted as you take inventory of your ability to follow through on your promises to yourself. If people are quizzical about how much attention you're giving yourself as you take stock, inform them that your astrologer has told you that December is Love Yourself Better Month.

♒ AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): If you want to play the drinking game called Possum, you and your friends climb up into a tree with a case of beer and start drinking. As time goes by, people get so hammered they fall out of the tree. The winner is the last one left in the tree. I hope you won't engage in this form of recreation anytime soon—nor in any other activity that even vaguely resembles it. The coming weeks should be a time of calling on favors, claiming your rewards, collecting your blessings, and graduating to the next level. I trust your policy will be: no trivial pursuits, no wasted efforts, no silly stunts.

♓ PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): In his song "Happy Talk," Academy Award-winning lyricist Oscar Hammerstein II offered this advice: "You gotta have a dream. If you don't have a dream, how you gonna have a dream come true?" Where do you stand in this regard, Pisces? Do you in fact have a vivid, clearly defined dream? And have you developed a strategy for making that dream come true? The coming weeks will be an excellent time to home in on what you really want and hone your scheme for manifesting it.

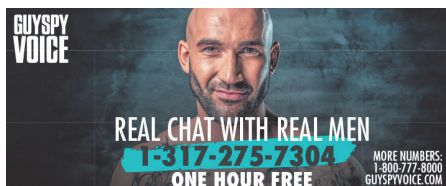
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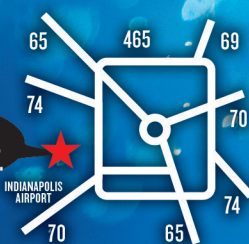


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Indianapolis, IN Area law enforcement agencies are asking for the public's help in finding Erika Coates. On October 30th, 2017 a warrant was issued charging Coates with Criminal Recklessness with a deadly Weapon. Crime Stoppers is offering a reward of up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest of Coates be directly and anonymously submitted to Crime Stoppers to be eligible for this reward. If you have information that will assist authorities, call Crime Stoppers at 317-262-8477 (TIPS). Citizens can also download the mobile P3tips app for Apple or Android phones to submit a mobile tip, or go to www.CrimeTips.org to submit a web tip. You will remain anonymous and maybe eligible for a cash reward of up to \$1000 if the information leads to a felony arrest.

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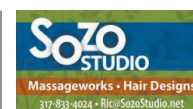
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